

21 May 2009

Your Excellency,

Re: Call for Action Against Abuse of Human Rights in Ethiopia

On 21 May 1991 President Mengistu fled Addis Ababa, effectively ending the Ethiopian Civil War and bringing the prospect of peace to millions of Ethiopians.

But almost a decade later, the lives of Ethiopians of all nationalities remain blighted by a government that, led by Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, continues to suppress the basic freedoms of its citizens.

Abuses range from the suppression of free speech and expression to the detention of political activists. These abuses have been repeatedly condemned by the U.S. State Department and the European Union but continue nonetheless.

Recently, we also learned that **lake Koka** that used to be the source of clean water supply is turned into the cause for the death of thousands of Oromo farmers residing near to the Lake as a result of toxic material discharged into the Lake by the Ethiopian Tannery, a company run by Pittards PLC which is located near to the Lake. See the attached documentary study carried out by Action Professionals Association for the people (APAP).

The Union of Oromo Students in Europe (UOSE) and the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO) therefore urges the Embassy of the United Kingdom to Belgium to:

- Request the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to initiate an inquiry into allegations of human rights abuse by the Ethiopian Government;
- Call on the European Union to raise the issue of human rights with the Ethiopian government;
- Use its good relations with European Union member states to express public and collective concern at the human rights abuses in Ethiopia;
- Support and assist in the implementation of a mechanism that can bring together all stakeholders in resolving Ethiopia's internal conflicts.
- To adhere itself to international codes of conduct with respect to Human rights and environmental protection
- Recently Genocide watch requested U.N. Higher Commission for Human rights to initiate for investigation of Ethiopian government for crimes against humanity. We fully appreciate the concern of Genocide Watch and appeal to the United Kingdom for the affirmative response to this issue.

We appeal to you and international community to intervene and take immediate action to avert political crises that could engulf the Horn of Africa.

Peace and justice for all,

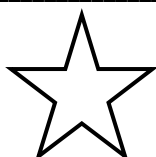
Yours sincerely,

INSERT SIGNATURE

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